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Taiwan

Market Development Report

Taiwan to Enact New Quarantine Controls on Two Fruit Pests

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Report Highlights:

ATO Taipei alert on new quarantine restrictions placed on fresh fruit imports from several important non-US suppliers of fresh fruit to Taiwan, including Australia, Japan and Korea. While the potential for market closure exists should quarantine pests be detected, ATO Taipei believes that affected countries already have pre-export programs in place that should, under normal circumstances, effectively prevent quarantine pest detections in exported fruit.

Includes PSD Changes: No
Includes Trade Matrix: No
Unscheduled Report
Taipi ATO [TW2]
[TW]

The Rules

At the beginning of November 2005, Taiwan's Bureau of Animal and Plant Health Inspection and Quarantine (BAPHIQ) announced new quarantine regimes for two newly designated quarantine pests. Quarantine inspections for the two newly designated pests, the Queensland Fruit Fly (*Bactrocera tryoni* (Froggatt)) and Peach Fruit Moth (*Carposina sasakii*), will take effect, respectively, on January 1st and February 1st of 2006.

Countries affected by the ruling include:

Queensland Fruit Fly: Australia (except the Riverland region) and several Pacific island states.

Peach Fruit Moth: China, Japan, Korea (South and North), and Russia.

Principal fruit categories affected by the ruling include:

Queensland Fruit Fly: Apples, Apricots, Avocados, Star Fruit (Carambola), Cherries, Citrus, Grapes, Guava, Kiwis, Mangoes, Papayas, Passion Fruit, Peaches, Pears, Plums, and Tomatoes.

Peach Fruit Moth: Apples, Plums, Apricots, Prunes, Peaches, Japanese Plums (*Prunus salicina*), Asian Pears, and Chinese Plums (*Ziziphus jujuba*).

Implementation

BAPHIQ has instructed quarantine officials in affected countries that all exports of fruit in the new quarantine categories must *either* be certified pest free by home country quarantine officials or be fumigated properly prior to export. Official certification of such must be submitted with normal export documentation. Failure to take necessary measures before export will subject fruit to mandatory inspection and quarantine measures (most likely fumigation) prior to clearing Customs in Taiwan.

Impact

Despite news reports in local English newspapers to the contrary, the effect of these new controls is *not* likely to impact trade significantly, as principal exporting countries targeted are known to use fumigation treatments already on fresh fruit (e.g., apples, pears) exported to Taiwan. However, should treatments not effectively eliminate live pests prior to Taiwan quarantine inspection or proper treatment not be conducted prior to export, the fresh fruit trade from Australia, Japan and Korea (in particular) could be significantly interrupted as, unlike the United States, none has negotiated ameliorative measures that would come into effect should a detection be registered. As both the Queensland Fruit Fly and Peach Fruit Moth have been

designated as zero tolerance pests, Taiwan would likely close its market to fruit in the affected categories from the exporting country following one detection.

Below is a selected list of fresh fruit items from Japan, Korea, China and Australia and their respective import volumes for 2004. All data noted are in metric tons.

	Japan	Korea	China	Australia
Apples	10,417	2,694	0	540
Asian Pears	1,156	8,506	0	33
Plums	0	0	0	705
Grapes	73	0	0	617
Kiwis	28	0	992	57
Cherries	0	0	0	157
Peaches & Nectarines	362	16	0	1,993
Citrus	46	15	0	4,822

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